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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

SET UP STATE MACHINE CENTERS

PLAN 100 FOR 1950 -- Rolnik Polski, No 19, 12 Feb 50

The POM (State Machine Centers) were set up to give the producers' cooperatives technical assistance. In addition to the 30 POM already in existence, 100 new ones will be set up in 1950. Half of this number will be ready for the start of spring farming.

It is expected that each POM will have 20-50 tractors of different types with all the related farm machinery for servicing cooperative farms in its area. Clusters of cooperative farms already exist in many powiats. In the first half of January 1950, eight producers' cooperatives were registered in Przemysl Powiat, and 17 new producers' cooperatives were registered in Nysa Powiat up to 25 January.

Concentration of farm machines in the POM offers many advantages. The cooperatives will not have to buy large, costly machines, which they often do not know how to handle, and can use the money for other purposes. They can also divert attention from the raising of horses to the raising of other animals. Farm machines handled by professional agronomists will improve farming and increase the land's productivity.

The POM will serve the state farms and individual farms, provided individual farmers submit applications in groups.

The personnel recruited from the younger crowd of the villages, particularly from cooperative farms, will be trained in special vocational courses and schools. Part of the trained personnel for the POM to be set up during the winter season is already available. Others will finish their training in February and March 1950.

A collective-bargaining agreement provides rigid technical quotas and premium pay for exceeding quotas.

- 1 -

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MECHANIZE SLASK FARMS -- Trybuna Robotnicza, No 41, 10 Feb 50

Large-scale mechanization of farming began in the first year of the Three-Year Plan. It was primarily the task of SOM (Cooperative Machine Centers) organized at the village cooperatives of Peasants' Self-Help. Until mid-1948, the organization of these machine centers was entrusted to the branch of Peasants' Self-Help.

In the beginning, the SOM encountered many difficulties, resulting from the insufficient number of farm machines and lack of proper quarters. The greatest obstacle was the peasants' mistrust in cooperative machine centers, instigated by wealthy peasants and speculators.

With the introduction of the new form of cooperative organization, July 1948, the machine centers came under the Central Agricultural Office of the Peasants' Self-Help. The quick development of the machine centers raised the problem of intensive technical and ideological training of workers at the centers.

In Slask Wojewodztwo, the SOM performed a very good job. While only 2,900 small and medium farmholders used SOM services for the 1949 spring planting, 24,000 used the SOM in their harvesting. The SOM were also instrumental in organizing producers' cooperatives.

In the last year of the Three-Year Plan, labor competition at the SOM increased productivity. In 1948, average daily productivity of a tractor in an SOM in Slask was 1.2 to 1.8 hectares of ordinary tillage. In the spring of 1949 it was 2-2.5 hectares. In the fall of 1949 average daily productivity was about 3 hectares.

TO MODERNIZE MIKOLAJKI FISH HATCHERY -- Ziemia Olsztynska, No 47, 16 Feb 50

Under the Six-Year Plan, the artificially constructed fish hatchery in Mikolajki, Olsztyn Wojewodztwo, will obtain completely modern equipment. In addition, ponds will be built for raising small fry to an age of one year. The ponds will be near Taltowisko Lake and will cover an area of 110 hectares.

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- 2 -

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